

## SIN

To SINGE. *v. a.* [*sangan*, Saxon; *senghen*, Dutch.] To scorch; to burn slightly or superficially.  
They bound the doctor,  
Whose beard they have *sing'd* off with brands of fire. *Shak.*  
You sulph'rous and thought executing fires,  
*Singe* my white head. *Shakespeare.*  
Drake, in the vaunting file of a soldier, would call this enterprize the *singing* of the king of Spain's beard. *Bacon.*  
That neither was *singed* in the combustion of Phaeton, nor overwhelmed by the inundation of Deucalion. *Brown.*  
They leave a *singed* bottom all invol'd  
With stench and smoke. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
*Singed* the toes of an ape through a burning glass, and he never would endure it after. *L'Estrange.*  
Thus riding on his curls he seem'd to pass  
A rolling fire along, and *singe* the grass. *Dryden.*  
SINGER. *n. f.* [*from sing.*] One that sings; one whose profession or business is to sing.  
His silencing was like an unskilful *singer*, he kept not time. *Shakespeare. Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
I gat me men *singers* and women *singers*, and the delights of the fons of men. *Ecc. ii. 8.*  
To the chief *singer* on my fringed instruments. *Hab. iii.*  
Thy heart no ruder than the rugged stone,  
I might, like Orpheus, with my num'rous moan  
Melt to compassion: now my trait'rous song  
With thee conspires to do the *singer* wrong. *Waller.*  
Cockbirds amongst *singing* birds are ever the better *singers*, because they are more lively. *Bacon's Natural History.*  
The birds know how to *chufe* their fare;  
To peck this fruit they all forbear:  
Those cheerful *singers* know not why  
They should make any haste to die. *Waller.*  
The Grecian tragedy was at first nothing but a chorus of *singers*. *Dryden.*  
SINGINGMASTER. *n. f.* [*sing and master.*] One who teaches to sing.  
He employed an itinerant *singingmaster* to instruct them rightly in the tunes of the psalms. *Addison's Spectator.*  
SINGLE. *adj.* [*singulus*, Latin.]  
1. One; not double; not more than one.  
The words are clear and easy, and their originals are of single signification without any ambiguity. *South.*  
Some were *single* acts, though each compleat;  
But ev'ry act flood ready to repeat. *Dryden.*  
Then Theseus join'd with bold Pirithous came,  
A *single* concord in a double name. *Dryden.*  
High Alas,  
A lonely desert, and an empty land,  
Shall scarce afford, for needful hours of rest,  
A *single* house to their benighted guest. *Addison on Italy.*  
Where the poetry or oratory shines, a *single* reading is not sufficient to satisfy a mind that has a true taste; nor can we make the fullest improvement of them without proper reviews. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*  
2. Particular; individual.  
As no *single* man is born with a right of controuling the opinions of all the rest, so the world has no title to demand the whole time of any particular person. *Pope.*  
If one *single* word were to express but one simple idea, and nothing else, there would be scarce any mistake. *Watts.*  
3. Not compounded.  
As simple ideas are opposed to complex, and *single* ideas to compound, so propositions are distinguished: the English tongue has some advantage above the learned languages, which have no usual word to distinguish *single* from simple. *Watts.*  
4. Alone; having no companion; having no assistant.  
Servant of God, well hast thou fought  
The better fight, who *single* hast maintain'd  
Against revolted multitudes the cause of truth. *Milton.*  
His wisdom such,  
Three kingdoms wonder, and three kingdoms fear,  
Whilst *single* he stood forth. *Denham.*  
In sweet possession of the fairy place,  
*Single* and conscious to myself alone,  
Of pleasures to th' excluded world unknown. *Dryden.*  
5. Unmarried.  
Is the *single* man therefore blessed? no: as a walled town is more worthy than a village, so is the forehead of a married man more honourable than the bare brow of a bachelor. *Shak.*  
Pygmalion  
Abhor'd all womankind, but most a wife;  
So *single* chose to live, and thunn'd to wed,  
Well pleas'd to want a comfort of his bed. *Dryden.*  
6. Not complicated; not duplicated.  
To make flowers double is effected by often removing them into new earth; as, on the contrary, double flowers, by neglecting and not removing, prove *single*. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*  
7. Pure; uncorrupt; not double minded; simple. A scriptural sense.  
The light of the body is the eye: if thine eye be *single*, thy whole body shall be full of light. *Mat. vi. 22.*

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8. That in which one is opposed to one.  
He, when his country, threaten'd with alarms,  
Shall more than once the Punick bands affright,  
Shall kill the Gaulish king in *single* fight. *Dryden's Zen.*  
To SINGLE. *v. a.* [*from the adjective.*]  
1. To chuse out from among others.  
I saw him in the battle range about,  
And how he *singled* Clifford forth. *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*  
Every man may have a peculiar favour, which although not perceptible unto man, yet sensible unto dogs, who hereby can *single* out their master in the dark. *Brown.*  
Do'st thou already *single* me? I thought  
Gyves and the mill had tam'd thee. *Milton's Agonistes.*  
Begin, auspicious boy, to cast about  
Thy infant eyes, and with a smile thy mother *single* out. *Dry.*  
*Single* the lowliest of the am'rous youth;  
Ask for his vows, but hope not for his truth. *Prior.*  
2. To sequester; to withdraw.  
Yea simply, faith Basil, and universally, whether it be in works of nature, or of voluntary choice, I see not any thing done as it should be, if it be wrought by an agent *singling* itself from comforts. *Hobbes.*  
3. To take alone.  
Many men there are, than whom nothing is more commendable when they are *singled*; and yet, in society with others, none less fit to answer the duties which are looked for at their hands. *Hobbes.*  
4. To separate.  
Hardly they heard, which by good hunters *singled* are. *Sidon.*  
SINGLESNESS. *n. f.* [*from single.*] Simplicity; sincerity; honest plainness.  
It is not the deepness of their knowledge, but the *singleness* of their belief, which God accepteth. *Hobbes.*  
SINGLY. *adv.* [*from single.*]  
1. Individually; particularly.  
If the injured person be not righted, every one of them is wholly guilty of the injustice, and therefore bound to restitution *singly* and intirely. *Taylor's Rule of Living.*  
They tend to the perfection of human nature, and to make men *singly* and personally good, or tend to the happiness of society. *Tillotson's Sermons.*  
2. Only; by himself.  
Look thee, 'tis so; thou *singly* honest man,  
Here take the gods out of my misery  
Have sent thee treasure. *Shakespeare. Timon of Athens.*  
3. Without partners or associates.  
Belinda  
Burns to encounter two adventurous knights,  
At ombre *singly* to decide their doom. *Pope.*  
4. Honestly; simply; sincerely.  
SINGULAR. *adj.* [*singularis*, Fr. *singularis*, Latin.]  
1. Single; not complex; not compound.  
That idea which represents one particular determinate thing is called a *singular* idea, whether simple, complex, or compound. *Watts.*  
2. [In grammar.] Expressing only one; not plural.  
[In St. Paul's speaking of himself in the first person *singular* has so various meanings, his use of the first person plural has a greater latitude. *Lact.*  
3. Particular; unexampled.  
So *singular* a fadness  
Must have a cause as strange as the effect. *Denham's Sappho.*  
Doubtless, if you are innocent, your case is extremely hard, yet it is not *singular*. *Female Quixote.*  
4. Having something not common to others. It is commonly used in a sense of disapprobation, whether applied to persons or things.  
His zeal  
None seconded, as *singular* and rash.  
It is very commendable to be *singular* in any excellency; and religion is the greatest excellency: to be *singular* in any thing that is wise and worthy is not a disparagement, but a praise. *Tillotson.*  
5. Alone; that of which there is but one.  
These bulks of the emperors and empresses are all very scarce, and some of them almost *singular* in their kind. *Addison.*  
SINGULARITY. *n. f.* [*singularitas*, Fr. *singularite*, Latin.]  
1. Some character or quality by which one is distinguished from others.  
Pliny addeth this *singularity* to that soil, that the second year the very falling down of the seeds yieldeth corn. *Raleigh.*  
Though, according to the practice of the world, it be singular for men thoroughly to live up to the principles of their religion, yet *singularity* in this matter is a singular commendation of it. *Tillotson's Sermons.*  
I took notice of this little figure for the *singularity* of the instrument: it is not unlike a violin. *Addison on Italy.*  
2. Any thing remarkable; a curiosity.  
Your gallery  
Have we pass'd through, not without much content  
In many *singularities*; but we saw not  
That which my daughter came to look upon,  
The statue of her mother. *Shakespeare. Winter's Tale.*  
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3. Particular privilege or prerogative.  
St. Gregory, being himself a bishop of Rome, and writing against the title of universal bishop, saith thus: none of all my predecessors ever consented to use this ungodly title; no bishop of Rome ever took upon him this name of *singularity*. *Hooker.*  
4. Character or manners different from those of others.  
The spirit of *singularity* in a few ought to give place to public judgment.  
*Singularity* in sin puts it out of fashion, since to be alone in any practice seems to make the judgment of the world against it; but the concurrence of others is a tacit approbation of that in which they concur. *South.*  
To SINGULARIZE. *v. a.* [*se singulariser*, Fr. *from singular.*]  
To make *single*.  
SINGULARLY. *adv.* [*from singular.*] Particularly; in a manner not common to others.  
Solitude and singularity can neither daunt nor disgrace him, unless we could suppose it a disgrace to be *singularly* good. *South.*  
SINGULR. *n. f.* [*singulus*, Latin.] A sign.  
SINGSTER. *adj.* [*singster*, Latin.]  
1. Being on the left hand; left; not right; not dexter.  
My mother's blood  
Runs on the dexter cheek, and this *singster*  
Bounds in my fire's. *Shakespeare. Troilus and Cressida.*  
Captain Spurio, with his cicatrice, an emblem of war, here on his *singster* cheek. *Shakespeare. All's well that ends well.*  
But a rib, crooked by nature, tent, as now appears,  
More to the part *singster* from me drawn. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
The spleen is unjustly introduced to invigorate the *singster* side, which, being dilated, would rather inflame and debilitate it. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
In his *singster* hand, instead of ball,  
He plac'd a mighty mug of potent ale. *Dryden.*  
2. Bad; perverse; corrupt; deviating from honesty; unfair.  
Is it so strange a matter to find a good thing furthered by ill men of a *singster* intent and purpose, whose forwardness is not therefore a bribe to such as favour the same cause with a better and sincere meaning. *Hooker.*  
The duke of Clarence was soon after by *singster* means made clean away. *Spenser on Ireland.*  
When are there more unworthy men chosen to offices, when there more strife and contention about elections, or when do partial and *singster* affections more utter themselves, than when an election is committed to many? *Whitegate.*  
He professes to have received no *singster* measure from his judge, but most willfully humbles himself to the determination of justice. *Shakespeare. Measure for Measure.*  
Those may be accounted the left hands of courts; persons that are full of nimble and *singster* tricks and shifts, whereby they pervert the plain courses of courts, and bring justice into oblique lines and labyrinths. *Bacon's Essays.*  
The just person has given the world an assurance, by the constant tenor of his practice, that he makes a conscience of his ways, and that he scorns to undermine another's interest by any *singster* or inferior arts. *South.*  
3. [*Singster*, French.] Unlucky; inauspicious.  
Tempt it again: that is thy act, or none:  
What all the fœdral ills that visit earth,  
Brought forth by night, with a *singster* birth,  
Plagues, famine, fire, could not reach unto,  
The sword, nor surfeits, let thy fury do. *Brown's Johnson.*  
SINISTROUS. *adj.* [*singster*, Latin.] Aburd; perverse; wrong-headed.  
A knave or fool can do no harm, even by the most *singster* and absurd choice. *Bentley.*  
SINISTROUSLY. *adv.* [*from sinistrous.*]  
1. With a tendency to the left.  
Many in their infancy are *singster*ly disposed, and divers continue all their life left-handed, and have but weak and imperfect use of the right. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
2. Perversely; absurdly.  
To SINK. *v. n.* pret. *I sunk*, anciently *sank*; part. *sunk* or *sunken*. [*sengan*, Saxon; *sinken*, German.]  
1. To fall down through any medium; not to swim; to go to the bottom.  
Make his chronicle as rich with prize,  
As is the oozy bottom of the sea  
With *sunk* on wreck and sunless treasures. *Shakespeare. H. V.*  
In with the river *sunk*, and with it rose,  
Satan, involv'd in rising mist, then fought  
Where to lie hid. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*  
He swims or *sinks*, or wades, or creeps or flies. *Milton.*  
The pirate *sinks* with his ill-gotten gains,  
And nothing to another's use remains. *Dryden.*  
Supposing several in a tempest will rather perish than work, would it not be madness in the rest to chuse to *sink* together, rather than do more than their share? *Addison on the War.*  
2. To fall gradually.  
The arrow went out at his heart, and he *sunk* down in his chariot. *2 Kings ix. 24.*  
3. To enter or penetrate into any body.  
David took a stone and flung it, and smote the Philistine, that the stone *sunk* into his forehead. *1 Sa. xvii. 49.*

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4. To lose height: to fall to a level.  
In vain has nature form'd  
Mountains and oceans to oppose his passage;  
He bounds o'er all, victorious in his march;  
The Alps and Pyreneans *sink* before him. *Addison's Cato.*  
5. To lose or want prominence.  
What were his marks?—A lean cheek, a blue eye and *sunk*. *Shakespeare. As you like it.*  
Deep dinted wrinkles on her cheeks she draws;  
*Sunk* are her eyes, and toothless are her jaws. *Dryden.*  
6. To be overwhelmed or depressed.  
Our country *sinks* beneath the yoke;  
It weeps, it bleeds, and each new day a gash  
Is added to her wounds. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*  
They arraign'd shall *sink*  
Beneath thy sentence.  
But if you this ambitious pray'r deny,  
Then let me *sink* beneath proud Arcite's arms;  
And, I once dead, let him poll's her charms. *Dryden.*  
7. To be received; to be impressed.  
Let these sayings *sink* down into your ears. *Lu. ix. 44.*  
Truth never *sinks* into these mens minds, nor gives any tincture to them. *Locke.*  
8. To decline; to decrease; to decay.  
This republic has been much more powerful than it is at present, as it is still likelier to *sink* than increase in its dominions. *Addison on Italy.*  
Let not the fire *sink* or slacken, but increase. *Mortimer.*  
9. To fall into rest or indolence.  
Would'st thou have me *sink* away  
In pleasing dreams, and lose myself in love,  
When every moment Cato's life's at stake? *Addison's Cato.*  
10. To fall into any state worse than the former; to tend to ruin.  
Nor urg'd the labours of my lord in vain,  
A *sinking* empire longer to sustain. *Dryden's Aen.*  
To SINK. *v. a.*  
1. To put under water; to disab from swimming or floating.  
A small fleet of English made an hostile invasion, or incursion, upon their havens and roads, and fired, *sunk*, and carried away ten thousand ton of their great shipping, besides smaller vessels. *Bacon.*  
2. To delve; to make by delving.  
At Saga in Germany they dig up iron in the fields by *sinking* ditches two foot deep, and in the space of ten years the ditches are digged again for iron since produced. *Boyle.*  
Near Geneva are quarries of freestone, that run under the lake: when the water is at lowest, they make within the borders of it a little square, inclosed within four walls: in this square they *sink* a pit, and dig for freestone. *Addison.*  
3. To depre's; to degrade.  
A mighty king I am, an earthly god;  
I raise or *sink*, imprison or set free;  
And life or death depends on my decree. *Prior.*  
Trifling painters or sculptors bestow infinite pains upon the most insignificant parts of a figure, till they *sink* the grandeur of the whole. *Pope's Essay on Homer.*  
4. To plunge into destruction.  
Heav'n bear witness,  
And if I have a conscience let it *sink* me,  
Ev'n as the ax falls, if I be not faithful. *Shakespeare.*  
5. To make to fall.  
These are so far from raising mountains, that they overturn and fling down some before standing, and undermine others, *sinking* them into the abyss. *Woodward.*  
6. To bring low; to diminish in quantity.  
When on the banks of an unlook'd-for stream,  
You *sunk* the river with repeated draughts,  
Who was the last in all your host that thirsted? *Addison.*  
7. To crush; to overbear; to depre's.  
That Hector was in certainty of death, and depressed with the conscience of an ill cause: if you will not grant the first of these will *sink* the spirit of a hero, you'll at least allow the second may. *Pope.*  
8. To lessen; to diminish.  
They catch at all opportunities of ruining our trade, and *sinking* the figure which we make. *Addison on the War.*  
I mean not that we should *sink* our figure out of covetousness, and deny ourselves the proper conveniences of our station, only that we may lay up a superfluous treasure. *Rogers.*  
9. To make to decline.  
Thy cruel and unnatural lust of power  
Has *sunk* thy father more than all his years,  
And made him wither in a green old age.  
To labour for a *sunk* corrupted state. *Rowe.*  
10. To suppress; to conceal; to intervert.  
If sent with ready money to buy any thing, and you happen to be out of pocket, *sink* the money, and take up the goods on account. *Swift's Rules to Servants.*  
SINK. *n. f.* [*sunc*, Saxon.]  
1. A drain; a jakes.  
Should by the cormorant tell be restrain'd,  
Who is the *sink* o' th' body. *Shakespeare. Coriolanus.*  
Bad